

**REHABILITATION OF FIRE DAMAGED
REINFORCED CONCRETE COLUMNS USING
ULTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE FIBRE
REINFORCED CONCRETE**

MOHD ZULHAM AFFANDI BIN MOHD ZAHID

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

2020

**REHABILITATION OF FIRE DAMAGED REINFORCED CONCRETE
COLUMNS USING ULTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE FIBRE REINFORCED
CONCRETE**

by

MOHD ZULHAM AFFANDI BIN MOHD ZAHID

**Thesis submitted in fulfillment of the
requirements for the Degree of
Doctor of Philosophy**

February 2020

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Praise to Allah for giving me an opportunity to further my study and to complete this thesis.

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge Professor Dr. Badorul Hisham Abu Bakar and Associate Professor Dr Fadzli Mohamed Nazri for the supervision and advice along my study. Thank you very much to the technicians in Universiti Sains Malaysia and Universiti Malaysia Perlis for their help and cooperation during experimental works.

Then, I am also would like to acknowledge the Ministry of Education of Malaysia, Universiti Sains Malaysia and Universiti Malaysia Perlis for the financial aid through Skim Latihan Akademik Bumiputera (SLAB) and research grant.

Finally, special thanks to my family members for their support and encouragement throughout my study.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	iii
LIST OF TABLES	vi
LIST OF FIGURES	viii
LIST OF SYMBOLS	xv
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xvii
ABSTRAK	xviii
ABSTRACT	xx
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Problem statement	4
1.3 Aim and Objective	5
1.4 Scope of work.....	6
1.5 Thesis outline	7
1.6 Limitation of the study	8
CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW.....	10
2.1 Introduction	10
2.2 Effect of fire on reinforced concrete structures.....	11
2.3 Type of repair materials	14
2.4 Ultra High Performance Fibre Reinforced Concrete (UHPFRC)	20
2.4.1 Compressive strength.....	21
2.4.2 Tensile strength and strain hardening property.....	27

	Page
2.4.3 Workability	32
2.5 Application of UHPFRC in repair works	37
2.6 Effect of fibre content	43
2.7 Thickness of UHPFRC layer	49
2.8 Effect of column cross section	52
2.9 Summary of previous literature	56
CHAPTER 3 METHODOLOGY.....	59
3.1 Overview	59
3.2 Methodology framework.....	59
3.3 Preparation of UHPFRC.....	60
3.4 Preparation of reinforced concrete columns specimens	73
3.5 Heating regime	80
3.6 Repair technique for fire damaged reinforced concrete column	84
3.7 Testing	90
3.8 Summary	95
CHAPTER 4 EFFECT OF GEOMETRICAL SHAPE OF CONCRETE COLUMNS	96
4.1 Overview	96
4.2 Mechanical properties of UHPFRC	96
4.3 Post heating observation.....	103
4.4 Cross sectional effect	114
4.4.1 Load carrying capacity.....	115
4.4.2 Stiffness.....	125
4.4.3 Ductility	130
4.4.4 Stress-strain behaviour	133

	Page
4.5 Summary	135
CHAPTER 5 EFFECT OF STEEL FIBRE CONTENT AND THICKNESS OF REPAIR MATERIAL.....	137
5.1 Overview	137
5.2 Effect of UHPFRC thickness layer	137
5.2.1 Load carrying capacity.....	138
5.2.2 Stiffness.....	147
5.2.3 Ductility	154
5.2.4 Stress-strain behaviour	162
5.3 Effect of steel fibre content	164
5.3.1 Load carrying capacity.....	165
5.3.2 Stiffness.....	173
5.3.3 Ductility	176
5.3.4 Stress-strain behaviour	183
5.4 The relationship between the increment of load bearing capacity and steel fibre content	186
5.5 The optimum UHPFRC thickness and steel fibre content	189
5.4 Summary	189
CHAPTER 6 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	192
6.1 Conclusion.....	192
6.2 Recommendation.....	195
REFERENCES.....	197
APPENDICES	
Appendix A : Calculation of Volumetric of Fibre	
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS	

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table 2.1 Comparison of mechanical properties of concrete, carbon and glass fibre reinforced polymer (Hannan & Jawarneh, 2017; Rousin & Haddad, 2016; Xiang & Wang, 2013; Brisby et al., 2011; Yaqub & Bailey, 2011a; Yaqub & Bailey, 2011b; Toutanji & Gomez, 1997).....	19
Table 2.2 UHPFRC mixture from previous studies (Choe et al., 2015; Maca et al., 2014; Wille et al., 2014; Yu et al., 2014; Graybel, 2007; Ay, 2004)	23
Table 2.3 Summary of factors affect the workability of UHPFRC.....	36
Table 2.4 Tensile strength of UHPFRC and its performance in improving load bearing capacity of existing reinforced concrete beams (Lampropolous et al. 2016)	45
Table 2.5 Effect of fibre on the properties of UHPFRC	48
Table 2.6 Thickness of fibre reinforced concrete layer used in strengthening works	52
Table 2.7 Summary on the effect of column geometry to the structural capacity enhancement	56
Table 3.1 Mixture proportion for UHPFRC.....	64
Table 3.2 Steel fibre properties	68
Table 3.3 Sample designation	74
Table 3.4 Mix proportion for square and circular reinforced concrete specimens	75
Table 3.5 Slenderness ratio and limiting slenderness ratio	80

Table 3.6	Heating regime applied in previous studies	81
Table 4.1	Effect of water-cement ratio on workability of UHPFRC	99
Table 4.2	Effect of sand content on slump diameter and compressive strength of trial cube of UHPFRC.....	99
Table 4.3	Value of cracking stress, σ_{cc} and tensile stress, σ_{pc} for various steel fibre content of UHPFRC dogbone specimens	103
Table 4.4	Slenderness ratio and limiting slenderness ratio of fire damaged reinforced concrete columns.....	106
Table 4.5	Weight of square and circular reinforced concrete column before and after heating.....	107
Table 4.6	Secant stiffness of original and fire damaged column	112

LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure 1.1 The Windsor Tower in Madrid after 26 hour fire in 2005 (Annelis De Wit, 2012).....	3
Figure 2.1 Variation of compressive strength (top) splitting tensile strength (bottom) of normal concrete as a function of temperature (Kodur, 2014).....	12
Figure 2.2 Spalling of reinforced concrete column due to fire (JKR, 2016)	14
Figure 2.3 Illustration of performance levels of fibre reinforced concrete by Wille, et al.(2014).....	30
Figure 2.4 Strain hardening tensile behaviour of UHPFRC and idealized modelling approach by Wille, et al. (2014).....	31
Figure 2.5 Function of FRP during axial compression loading of square and circular columns (Yaqub & Bailey, 2011).....	54
Figure 3.1 Research framework.....	61
Figure 3.2 UHPFRC mixing work using mixer with various speed.....	64
Figure 3.3 Different type of superplasticizer used in this current study	65
Figure 3.4 Measuring UHPFRC paste diameter using measuring tape for slump flow test	66
Figure 3.5 Two different type of steel fibre used in this study (a) 6mm (b) 14mm in length	68
Figure 3.6 The dimension of dogbone shaped uniaxial test	70

	Page
Figure 3.7 Uniaxial tensile testing setup using Shidmadzu UTM machine	72
Figure 3.8 Dog bone shaped specimen holders for uniaxial tensile test	72
Figure 3.9 Mould for circular column	75
Figure 3.10 Casting of square column.....	76
Figure 3.11 Reinforcement arrangements in square and circular columns	77
Figure 3.12 Column specimens wrapped with plastic sheet.....	77
Figure 3.13 Column specimens covered with plastic sheet.....	78
Figure 3.14 Heating profiles	81
Figure 3.15 Reinforced concrete column samples to be heated	82
Figure 3.16 Furnace set up (left) maximum furnace temperature recorded during heating (right)	83
Figure 3.17 Application of high pressure air to remove loose concrete.....	85
Figure 3.18 Specimen experienced severe spalling (a) before and (b) after cleaning process using water jet and high speed air	86
Figure 3.19 Application of high pressure water (water jet) to remove loose concrete and moist the concrete surface	87
Figure 3.20 Moulds for UHPFRC jacket made from PVC and wood.....	87
Figure 3.21 Jacketing fire damaged concrete	88
Figure 3.22 UHPFRC jacketed square column just after stripping the formwork.....	89
Figure 3.23 Curing of UHPFRC jacketed square column in fogging room	89

	Page
Figure 3.24 UHPFRC repaired specimens were painted with white water based paint for better crack observation during compression test.....	90
Figure 3.25 Specimens after installation of strain gauges	90
Figure 3.26 Test setup	92
Figure 3.27 Data logger	92
Figure 3.28 Computer used to control the testing machine.....	93
Figure 3.29 Secant stiffness (Yaquab & Bailey, 2011 and Yaquab et al, 2013)	93
Figure 4.1 Effect of silica fume on slump flow diameter of UHPFRC	98
Figure 4.2 Relationship of silica fume and compressive strength.....	99
Figure 4.3 Average compressive strength of UHPFRC	101
Figure 4.4 Tensile stress of UHPFRC	101
Figure 4.5 Tensile stress strain curve of UHPFRC	103
Figure 4.6 Compressive strength of concrete cube before and after heating.....	104
Figure 4.7 Load carrying capacity of original and fire damaged reinforced concrete columns	105
Figure 4.8 Distance from centre of column to the surface	107
Figure 4.9 (a) spalling of post heated square column (b) spalled specimens after water jet.....	108
Figure 4.10 Post heating condition of circular columns.....	109
Figure 4.11 Axial compression failures of original square and circular columns	111

	Page
Figure 4.12 Axial stresses versus axial strains and axial stresses versus hoop strains for square (top) and circular (bottom) columns	112
Figure 4.13 Secant stiffness.....	113
Figure 4.14 Average load bearing capacity of circular and square columns repaired with UHPFRC with 1% steel fibre volume.....	117
Figure 4.15 Average load bearing capacity of circular and square columns repaired with UHPFRC with 1.5% steel fibre volume.....	118
Figure 4.16 Average load bearing capacity of circular and square columns repaired with UHPFRC with 2% steel fibre volume.....	120
Figure 4.17 Increment of load carrying capacity with respect to fire damaged specimen	121
Figure 4.18 Restoration of load carrying capacity (increment with respect to original specimen)	123
Figure 4.19 Function for FRP during axial compression of square and circular columns.....	125
Figure 4.20 Average stiffness of circular and square columns.....	126
Figure 4.21 Increment of stiffness with respect to fire damaged specimen.....	128
Figure 4.22 Restoration of stiffness (increment with respect to original specimen)	129
Figure 4.23 Maximum axial strains.....	131
Figure 4.24 Maximum lateral strains.....	132

	Page
Figure 4.25 Stress-strain curve of fire damaged concrete columns repaired with 60 mm thick of UHPFRC with 1.5% steel fibre (comparison with original specimens).....	134
Figure 4.26 Stress-strain curve of fire damaged concrete columns repaired with 60 mm thick of UHPFRC with 1.5% steel fibre (comparison with fire damaged specimens)	134
Figure 5.1 Load carrying capacity of circular columns repaired with UHPFRC with steel fibre content of 1% (a), 1.5% (b) and 2% (c)	142
Figure 5.2 Load carrying capacity of square columns repaired with UHPFRC with steel fibre content of 1% (a). 1.5% (b) and 2% (c)	143
Figure 5.3 The increment of load carrying capacity relative to heat damaged circular columns.....	145
Figure 5.4 The increment of load carrying capacity relative to heat damaged square columns	145
Figure 5.5 The restoration of load carrying capacity of circular columns	146
Figure 5.6 The restoration of load carrying capacity of square columns	147
Figure 5.7 Secant stiffness of circular columns repaired with UHPFRC with steel fibre content of 1% (a), 1.5%(b) and 2%(c)	149
Figure 5.8 Secant stiffness of square columns repaired with UHPFRC with steel fibre content of 1% (a), 1.5% (b) and 2% (c)	151
Figure 5.9 The increment of stiffness relative to fire damaged circular columns	152

	Page
Figure 5.10 The increment of stiffness relative to fire damaged square columns	153
Figure 5.11 The restoration of stiffness of reinforced circular columns	153
Figure 5.12 The restoration of stiffness of reinforced square columns	154
Figure 5.13 Maximum axial strains of circular columns repaired with UHPFRC with steel fibre content of (a) 1%, (b) 1.5% and (c) 2%	155
Figure 5.14 Maximum axial strains of square columns repaired with UHPFRC with steel fibre content of (a) 1%, (b) 1.5% and (c) 2%	157
Figure 5.15 Maximum hoop strains of circular columns repaired with UHPFRC with steel fibre content of (a) 1%, (b) 1.5% and (c) 2%	158
Figure 5.16 Maximum lateral strains of square columns repaired with UHPFRC with steel fibre content of (a) 1%, (b) 1.5% and (c) 2%	160
Figure 5.17 Stress-strain relationships for circular columns repaired with UHPFRC with 1% steel fibre volume.....	163
Figure 5.18 Stress-strain relationships for circular columns repaired with UHPFRC with 1.5% steel fibre volume.....	163
Figure 5.19 Stress-strain relationships for circular columns repaired with UHPFRC with 2% steel fibre volume.....	164
Figure 5.20 Load carrying capacity versus steel fibre content for fire damaged concrete column repaired with UHPFRC with thickness of (a) 20 mm, (b) 40 mm and (c) 60 mm.....	166

	Page
Figure 5.21 Increment of load carrying capacity versus steel fibre content for fire damaged concrete column repaired with UHPFRC with thickness of (a) 20 mm, (b) 40 mm and (c) 60 mm	170
Figure 5.22 Restoration of load carrying capacity versus steel fibre content for fire damaged concrete column repaired with UHPFRC with thickness of (a) 20 mm, (b) 40 mm and (c) 60 mm	171
Figure 5.23 Secant stiffness versus steel fibre content for fire damaged concrete column repaired with UHPFRC with thickness of (a) 20 mm, (b) 40 mm and (c) 60 mm.....	175
Figure 5.24 Maximum axial strains versus steel fibre content for fire damaged concrete column repaired with UHPFRC with thickness of (a) 20 mm, (b) 40 mm and (c) 60 mm.....	177
Figure 5.25 Maximum lateral strains versus steel fibre content for fire damaged concrete column repaired with UHPFRC with thickness of (a) 20 mm, (b) 40 mm and (c) 60 mm.....	182
Figure 5.26 Stress-strain relationships of fire damaged square columns repaired with 20 mm thick UHPFRC.....	184
Figure 5.27 Stress-strain relationships of fire damaged square columns repaired with 40 mm thick UHPFRC.....	185
Figure 5.28 Stress-strain relationships of fire damaged square columns repaired with 60 mm thick UHPFRC.....	185
Figure 5.29 The relationship between the load bearing capacity increment and steel fibre content for square columns.....	187
Figure 5.30 The relationship between the load bearing capacity increment and steel fibre content for circular columns.....	188

LIST OF SYMBOLS

A	Cross Sectional Area of Column
A_g	Gross Area of Column Cross-Section
A_{sc}	Area of Longitudinal Reinforcement for Column
D	Maximum Size of Aggregate
e_M	Maximum Paste Thickness (MPT)
E_{hc}	Hardening Modulus
f_{cd}	Design Compressive Strength of Concrete
f_{ck}	Characteristic Compressive Strength of Concrete
f_l	Increment Factor
f_l	Confining Pressure
f_{ot}	Tensile Strength of SIFCON
$f_{y,T}$	Reduced Yield Strength of the Compression Reinforcement
g^*	Packing Density of the Aggregates
g	Actual Volume of Aggregate in the Mix
g	Energy Absorption
$g_{f,a}$	Energy per unit volume
$G_{f,b}$	Dissipated Energy per Cracked Surface Area
i	Radius of Gyration
I	Second Moment of Inertia
k	Secant Stiffness
N_{ED}	Design Ultimate Axial Load in the Column

P_p	Peak Compressive Load
P_u	Axial Load on the Column
R	Radius of Concrete Column
t	Time in Minutes
u	Ductility
V_f	Volume of Steel Fibre
Δ_p	Displacement at Peak Compressive Load
Δ_u	Displacement at Ultimate Load
Δ_y	Displacement at Yield
ε_{cc}	Strain at first crack
ε_{pc}	Strain at Peak
ε_{res}	Residual Strain
λ	Slanderness Ratio
λ_{lim}	Upper Limit of Slanderness Ratio
l_o	Effective Length of Column
σ_{cc}	Tensile Stress at first crack
σ_{pc}	Tensile Strength
θ_g	Furnace Temperature

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CPT	Cone Penetration Test
C-S-H	Calcium Silicate Hydrate
FRP	Fibre Reinforced Polymer
L/D	Length-diameter Ratio (Aspect Ratio)
MIP	Matrix Initial Porosity
MPT	Maximum Paste Thickness
OPC	Ordinary Portland Cement
RPC	Reactive Powder Concrete
R-UHPFRC	Reinforced Ultra High Performance Fibre Reinforced Concrete
SFCBC	Steel Fibre Concrete Brass Coated
SIFCON	Slurry-Infiltrated-Fibre Reinforced Concrete
UHPC	Ultra High Performance Concrete
UHPFRC	Ultra High Performance Fibre Reinforced Concrete
UHSC	Ultra High Strength Concrete
UTM	Universal Testing Machine
W/C	Water-Cement Ratio

**PEMULIHARAAN KECACATAN TIANG KONKRIT BERTETULANG
DISEBABKAN KEBAKARAN MENGGUNAKAN KONKRIT BERPRESTASI
ULTRA BERTETULANG SERAT**

ABSTRAK

Tujuan kajian ini adalah untuk menyiasat potensi penggunaan konkrit berprestasi ultra bertetulang serat (KBUBS) sebagai bahan untuk membaiki tiang pendek konkrit yang cacat disebabkan kebakaran. Sebelum ini, pengkaji menggunakan Polimer Bertetulang Serat (PBS) untuk membaiki tiang konkrit yang rosak disebabkan kebakaran, tetapi mereka mendapati ia tidak dapat mengembalikan keupayaan menanggung beban tiang konkrit segi empat yang terlibat. Tambahan lagi, PBS juga tidak dapat meningkatkan kekukuhan tiang bulat dan segi empat yang cacat disebabkan kebakaran. KBUBS menunjukkan kekuatan ikatan yang cemerlang dengan konkrit yang cacat kerana kebakaran dan kemampuannya untuk memulihkan keupayaan galas beban tiang konkrit tersebut. Namun, tiada bukti kajian makmal menunjukkan kesan lapisan KBUBS dalam meningkatkan sifat mekanikal tiang konkrit bertetulang yang cacat kerana kebakaran. Dalam kajian ini, empat puluh empat (44) spesimen tiang konkrit bertetulang telah dipanaskan pada suhu 600°C selama dua jam dan diuji dibawah beban mampatan. Semua spesimen tiang telah diuji dibawah beban mampatan ekapaksi. Tegasan dan terikan telah diukur dan direkodkan menggunakan LVDT dan tolok terikan pada titik yang kritikal. Tiga pembolehubah yang dipertimbangkan ialah geometri tiang, (keratan rentas segiempat sama dan bulat), ketebalan bahan baik pulih dan amaun serat di dalam KBUBS. Didapati bahawa peningkatan ketebalan jaket KBUBS dan kandungan

serat keluli telah meningkatkan kapasiti galas beban, kekukuhan dan kemuluran tiang konkrit bulat dan empat segi sama. Kajian ini mencadangkan untuk menggunakan jaket KBUBS dengan ketebalan 20 mm dan 2% kandungan serat keluli untuk membaiki tiang konkrit yang rosak disebabkan kebakaran. Kesimpulannya, penggunaan KBUBS sebagai bahan baik pulih di dalam kaedah jaket adalah satu kaedah yang efektif untuk membaiki pulih tiang pendek bertetulang yang rosak disebabkan kebakaran.

REHABILITATION OF FIRE DAMAGED REINFORCED CONCRETE COLUMNS USING ULTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE FIBRE REINFORCED CONCRETE

ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to investigate the potential use of UHPFRC as a repair material for fire damaged reinforced concrete (RC) short columns. Previously researchers used Fibre Reinforced Polymer (FRP) to repair fire damaged RC columns but they found that it cannot reinstate the original load carrying capacity of the affected square columns. Moreover, FRP also failed to improve the stiffness of fire damaged square and circular RC columns. UHPFRC has shown an excellent bond strength with fire damaged concrete and its ability to recover the load bearing capacity of the fire damaged RC columns. However, there is no experimental evidence on the effect of UHPFRC layer in enhancing mechanical properties of fire damaged RC column. In this current study, forty four (44) specimens RC short columns were heated at 600°C for two hours and tested under compression load. All the RC short column specimens were tested under uniaxial compression load. Stress and strain were measured and recorded using LVDTs and strain gauges at the critical points. Three variables were considered namely geometry of column (square and circular cross section), thickness of repair material and the amount of fibre in UHPFRC. It was found that the increase of UHPFRC jacket thickness and steel fibre content have significantly improved the load bearing capacity, stiffness and ductility of fire damaged RC square and circular columns. This study proposes to use 20 mm thick UHPFRC jacket with 2% steel fibre to repair fire

damaged RC columns. In conclusion, the use of UHPFRC as repair material in jacketing technique is one of effective repair material to retrofit fire damaged RC short columns.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

In general, concrete structures have good performance during fire events due to its low thermal conductivity properties that protect the steel reinforcement which has higher thermal conductivity inside the concrete. According to BS EN1994-1-2 and BS EN1993-1-2, concrete exhibits lower heat conductivity of about 1.6 W/mK than that of steel (45 W/mK). Therefore, the properly designed concrete structures with sufficient concrete cover able to minimize the damage to the reinforcement and concrete core due to fire and successfully safeguard the integrity of the concrete structure during fire event.

However, after exposure to high temperature for long duration, the mechanical properties of concrete and steel reinforcement may significantly degrade and cause the deformation to happen. The compressive strength of concrete, tensile strength of steel reinforcement as well as the stress strain behaviour of the reinforced concrete structural member definitely will be different in comparison with pre fire events, even though, there is no damage encountered at the surface of concrete structure. According to BS EN1992-1-2, the conductivity of concrete degrades with the rise of surrounding temperature. Many previous studies have proved that prolonged exposure to high temperatures negatively affects the strength of concrete and the steel reinforcement bar inside it. Chan et al. (1999) reported that the residual compressive strength of concrete is only 50% after heated to 600°C. Moreover, it becomes 20% after exposure to 800°C. Furthermore, normal strength concrete experiences a severer loss in indirect tensile

strength compared with compressive strength at 600°C. The porosity of concrete also affected by fires which lead to pore structure coarsening and consequently increases its permeability but reduces durability of the concrete. After exposure to 600°C, the cumulative pore volume in normal-strength concrete increases twice. At temperatures higher than 600°C, extreme C-S-H gel dehydration and pore structure coarsening negatively affect the durability and mechanical properties of concrete (Chan et al., 1999).

Concrete structures affected by fires or high temperature rarely experience serious global structural damage and fortunately, in many cases the fire affected concrete structures can be rehabilitated and reoccupied. It can be seen from the fire event experienced by Winsor Tower on 14 February 2005. After about two hours of fire event, the concrete structure still standing as shown in Figure 1.1 (Denoel, 2007).

Therefore, it is more economical to repair and reuse the affected concrete structures instead of demolish and build new one (Yaqub and Bailey, 2011a). Even though sometimes the cost for repair works is higher than new construction, in case of partially affected buildings, the buildings still can be used during repair works. Repairing or strengthening fire damaged concrete structure is the best choice provided the proper and thorough assessment campaign has been carried out. Detail and thorough assessments is mandatory prior to the design and commencement of repair works. Then, based on assessment findings, the suitable repair material and appropriate repair technique can be identified.